

Murray City Municipal Council Chambers Murray City, Utah

The Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah, met on Tuesday, the 11th day of October 2005 at 6:30 p.m., for a meeting held in the Murray City Council Chambers, 5025 South State Street, Murray, Utah.

Roll Call consisted of the following

Krista Dunn,	Council Chair
Pat Griffiths,	Council Member -Conducted
Jim Brass,	Council Member
Robbie Robertson,	Council Member
Jeff Dredge,	Council Member

Mr. Brass conducted meeting.

Others who attended:

Daniel Snarr,	Mayor
Jan Wells,	Chief of Staff
Rondi Knowlton-Jefferies	Mayor's Office
Frank Nakamura,	City Attorney
Shannon Huff Jacobs,	Council Director
Brent Davidson,	Deputy City Recorder
Gil Rodriguez,	Fire Chief
Murray Citizens	

A. OPENING CEREMONIES

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Rondi Knowlton-Jefferies

2. Approval of Minutes

None

3. Special Recognition(s)

- a. Presentation of Joint Resolution of the Mayor and Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah, congratulating Taiwan, Republic of China, on its *Double Ten National Day* Celebration.

Ms. Griffiths said we are very excited to have Taiwanese Delegation with us today. Ms. Griffiths introduced Chiafong Tsao who is the President of the Chinese Society of Utah, and asked her to please introduce the other members who are with her this evening.

Ms. Tsao introduced, the Director General from Taipei Economic & Culture Office, Mr. Mark Leo, Cathy Jem, who has a business in Murray City.

Ms. Griffiths noted on the 27th of September the Council adopted a joint resolution of the Mayor and Municipal Council of Murray City congratulating Taiwan Republic of China on its Double Ten National Day Celebration.

Mr. Griffiths read the Joint Resolution.

Presentators: Ms. Krista Dunn, Council Chair, and Mayor Snarr

Ms. Dunn commented, she appreciates them being here tonight and to share the evening together for dinner. For many years Murray City has recognized the Double Ten Day Celebration with our Sister City. We hope they have an enjoyable stay in the United States and Murray. We would like to present the Joint Resolution to you.

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS (Comments are limited to 3 minutes unless otherwise approved by the Council.)

Bill Finch, 1055 Chevy Chase Drive, Salt Lake City, UT

Mr. Finch noted he is involved in the Neighborhood Watch and several other organizations in the area. His concern tonight is the ordinances for Murray that are being reviewed. He is interested in specific ordinances on rentals. Each property owner has the right to rent their property, but if it is a single family dwelling, it should be one family only.

We are starting to have many problems with existing homes in Chevy Chase and Lakewood subdivisions and also in the Wesley Park area. People are starting to rent out their basements. The ordinance would hopefully read that one member of that family that is renting should be a blood relative. It shouldn't be a fifth cousin, it should be parents, grandparents, siblings. A house recently sold on Dunbarton next to a friend of his, where the realtor knew of such a situation and said that wasn't her problem. The house has six bedrooms, three bathrooms, and a double car garage. nurse bought it and she has had five other nurses, renting from her. Mr. Finch thinks that is a direct violation

Mr. Finch said there should be sufficient parking off the streets especially for winter time. Their garage is full of other furniture which they couldn't get into the house. There is no way six cars can park on the property, four can park on the driveway, but they don't do it, three per night are out on the road.

Mr. Finch noted when properties are rented out the property values seems to start going down. They just don't take care of the property very well.

Mr. Finch is having problems with a couple of properties, that were the nicest homes in the area. When it was sold to one person, he only lived in it for a year and then he signed a lease with HUD and subsidized housing and a family moved in with seven children. They are from Haiti and they have done nothing since they moved in several years ago. They do not even water, because they cannot afford to water. Why would Subsidized Housing be put into such a nice home?

Mr. Finch noted there are cars parked on the street for months and that haven't been moved.

We feel we are not getting good response from zoning enforcement. Several homes along there just do not take care of their strips, sidewalk and gutter and also For more than six weeks Mr. Finch has been trying to get it on 5600 South cleaned up on the north side from roughly from Chevy Chase Drive up to 13th East. Several homes along there just do not take care of their strips, sidewalk and gutter. Rose bushes hanging over the sidewalks. Sometimes Mr. Finch calls the City Foresters and Code Enforcement. There is little difference.

Mr. Finch would like to see an ordinance that if a house has more than one family there is one common cooking area, there should be one kitchen area only. This would discourage some of these people renting out their basements.

Mr. Finch does not know if they can do anything about single family dwellings to enforce to watering. If it is a duplex, the landlord has to pay for the water.

Again, there are a few properties with junk cars parked on their property, not in the back yard, but the side yard and front. The County passed some ordinances on that a couple of years ago, that required vehicles to be registered and operable. Mr. Finch noted the residents are getting concerned about their property values and would appreciate anything that can address these new ordinances.

Mr. Nakamura noted there have been meetings and the City looking at issues.

Ms. Dunn stated most of the things that Mr. Finch has mentioned, we already have current ordinances that address those issues and it sounds like we need to get code enforcement people out taking a look. That is an easy one for us.

Ms. Griffiths commented the residents are the eyes and ears since we cannot see and hear all the things out there that should come to the attention of our Code Enforcement Officers. We appreciate you reporting those problems. This can be done through the Mayor's Office or through your Council Member, and be referred to Code Enforcement. We will do our best to enforce the codes that are in place.

Mayor Snarr noted we did send our Code Enforcement people up there and they are reviewing some of the things that Mr. Finch and Myrna Marsh and others have brought to the City's attention. We are going to meet with them again on Friday at 4:00 p.m. and make sure everyone understands what we can do and what we can't legally do. The Mayor wishes there was more we could do, but people have property rights. The issues with cars, We do have an ordinance already addressing whether the issues with cars can or not they are licensed and operable.

Ms. Griffiths noted the County ordinances pertaining to that would also apply to our community as well. If we did not have an ordinance in place, we could enforce those the County's Ordinance.

Mr. Nakamura noted the City will take a look at the County ordinances. We have a lot of issues, and we are spread very thin on terms of resources, but he knows our Code Enforcement people will get to it.

Mayor Snarr commented, it takes a long time to get a towing company to come and tow a vehicle. They have to get the title, or they have to go through a lengthy process to tow without a title. Towing companies are very sensitive about coming in and picking up vehicles off the street and towing them.

C. CONSENT AGENDA

_____None

D. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

_____None

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

_____ None

F. NEW BUSINESS

_____ None

G. MAYOR

_____ 1. Report

None

2. Question

H. ADJOURNMENT

Recorded by: Brent Davidson, Deputy City Recorder